THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL): (a) and (b) As per available information, 5889 families (21266 persons) are staying in Government managed camps since 1990 and thereafter.

(c) In order to enable the safe and honourable return of migrants to the Valley, the shrines in Mattan and Kheer Bhavani have been developed into two model clusters containing temporary shelters, where Kashmiri Migrants displaced from these places can be settled temporarily till such time that they can repair their existing residential houses. Government of India have provided a grant of Rs. 10.00 crores to the State Government for the reconstruction and renovation of houses and shrines at Kheer Bhavani and Mattan. The State Government have constructed 18 flats at Mattan and 100 one-room tenements at Kheer Bhavani. In addition, the Central Government have approved the construction of 200 flats at Sheikhpora in Budgam for the rehabilitation of Kashmiri Migrants and released Rs. 16.00 crores to the State Government to-date.

As announced by the Prime Minister during his visit to J&K in November 2004, an inter-ministerial team was constituted to prepare a plan to rehabilitate Kashmiri Migrants. The team recommended various confidence-building measures like construction of two-room tenements, creation of job opportunities, health-care and other facilities to improve the living conditions of the Migrants in the camps. Necessary action has been taken to implement the recommendations.

Blowing up of Railway tracks in Jharkhand

2634. SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA:
SHRI GIREESH KUMAR SANGHI.

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that blowing up of railway tracks on 26th January, 2006 at Jharkhand has caused an estimated damage of Rs. 10 crores and loss of several lives;

(b) whether it is also a fact that attacks on railway track destabilizes the supply of coal to the power plants in Northern and Central India; and

(c) if so, what steps Government propose to take to prevent terrorists attacks on railway tracks?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL): (a) and (b) On January 26, 2006 an explosion took place on the down track on Coalfield Industrial Centre (C.I.C.) Section of East Central Railway. In the incident five bogies of an empty goods train got derailed causing damage to the track and the traction line. Such attacks lead to disruption of the rail traffic on the C.I.C. Section.

(c) The Ministry of Railways has been advised to expeditiously strengthen the RPF in terms of number, training, equipment and legal powers. Emphasis has been laid on better co-ordination between RPF, GRP and local police especially at the cutting edge level.

Talks with leaders of Jammu and Kashmir

2635. SHRI T.S. BAJWA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the status of talks with the Prime Minister and separatist leaders of Jammu and Kashmir to find out peaceful solution of Jammu and Kashmir; and

(b) by when the next round of talks are likely to be held?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL): (a) Prime Minister, Dr. Manmohan Singh met a delegation of All Party Hurriyat Conference (APHC) led by Mirwaiz Umar Farooq on September 5, 2005 and again on May 3, 2006. Separately he met a delegation led by People's Conference Chairman Shri Sajjad Lone on January 14,2006 and another delegation led by Yasin Malik, Chairman of Jammu and Kashmir Liberation Front, on February 17, 2006. The Prime Minister also held a Round Table Conference on Jammu and Kashmir on February 25, 2006, in which a broad spectrum of political groups and representatives of various sections of civil society from the State participated. During the talks, the Prime Minister reaffirmed his faith in a peaceful resolution of all issues pertaining to Jammu and Kashmir and reiterated the Government's stance that violence has no role in a democracy. The participants also stressed that an honorable and durable solution should be found through dialogue. It was also agreed to carry forward the dialogue process so that all regions and all shades of political opinion in Jammu and Kashmir are involved.